

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (previously presented) A fiber optic installation structure comprising:

a duct, comprising an inner tube and a jacket, the jacket generally surrounding the inner tube, wherein the jacket is formed from a material that is compressible, so that when the duct is disposed within a channel defined by a paved surface a friction fit is created between the duct and the channel over a portion of a duct length;

at least one optical waveguide disposed within at least a portion of the inner tube of the duct; and

a filling material overlying the duct and at least partially filling the channel.

2. (original) The fiber optic installation structure of claim 1, the jacket being a foamed material adapted for being compressed by when inserted into the channel, wherein a major dimension of the jacket is compressed by about five percent or more when inserted into the channel.

3. (original) The fiber optic installation structure of claim 1, the duct further comprising an armor layer, the armor layer being generally disposed between the inner tube and the jacket.

4. (original) The fiber optic installation structure of claim 3, the armor layer being formed from a helically wrapped interlocking armor tape.

5. (original) The fiber optic installation structure of claim 3, the armor layer being formed from a longitudinally wrapped armor tape.

6. (original) The fiber optic installation structure of claim

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1, the inner tube having ribs on a portion of the inner surface for aiding in routing optical fibers within the inner tube.

7. (original) The fiber optic installation structure of claim 1, the duct having a non-round cross-section.

8. (original) The fiber optic installation structure of claim 1, the duct having a non-round cross-section and an armor layer, the armor layer being generally disposed between the inner tube and the jacket.

9. (original) The fiber optic installation structure of claim 1, the jacket being formed from a heat resistant material.

10. (original) The fiber optic installation structure of claim 1, the jacket being a material that is compressed by about five percent or more along a major dimension of the jacket when inserted into the channel and an armor layer generally disposed between the inner tube and the jacket.

11. (original) The fiber optic installation structure of claim 1, the inner tube having ribs on a portion of the inner surface for aiding in routing optical fibers within the inner tube and an armor layer generally disposed between the inner tube and the jacket.

12. (original) The fiber optic installation structure of claim 1, the duct further comprising at least one wire wrapped about the inner tube with the at least one wire being selected from the group of a conductive material, a non-conductive material, and a composite material.

13. (original) The fiber optic installation structure of claim

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1, further comprising at least one electrical conductor.

14. (original) The fiber optic installation structure of claim 1, the jacket being formed from at least two layers.

15. (cancelled)

16. (cancelled)

17. (cancelled)

18. (cancelled)

19. (cancelled)

20. (cancelled)

21. (cancelled)

22. (cancelled)

23. (cancelled)

24. (cancelled)

25. (cancelled)

26. (cancelled)

27. (cancelled)

28. (cancelled)

29. (currently amended) A method for routing a duct within a

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paved surface, comprising the steps of:

forming a channel in a paved surface, the channel having a predetermined width; and

placing a duct having an inner tube and a jacket into the channel, thereby forming a friction fit between the duct and the channel over a portion of a duct length, wherein the jacket has a major dimension that is greater than the predetermined width of the channel a ratio between the predetermined width of the channel and the major dimension of the jacket being about 0.95 or less so that and the jacket of the duct is compressed when the duct is placed within the channel.

30. (cancelled)

31. (previously presented) The method of claim 29, the step of placing the duct into the channel comprising compressing the major dimension of the jacket by at least about five percent, thereby forming the friction fit.

32. (original) The method of claim 29, further comprising the step of placing a filling material into the channel that overlies the duct, thereby at least partially filling the channel and covering the duct.

33. (original) The method of claim 29, further comprising the step of routing at least one optical fiber within the duct.

34. (original) The method of claim 29, the jacket of the duct being a foamed material.

35. (original) The method of claim 29, the jacket being formed from a heat resistant material.

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36. (original) The method of claim 29, the duct having a non-round cross-section.

37. (cancelled)

38. (previously presented) A fiber optic installation structure comprising:

a duct, comprising an inner tube and a jacket, the jacket generally surrounding the inner tube;

a channel defined by a paved surface, the duct being disposed within the channel so that a friction fit is created between the duct and the channel over a portion of a duct length;

at least one optical waveguide disposed within at least a portion of the inner tube of the duct; and

a filling material overlying the duct and at least partially filling the channel.

39. (original) The fiber optic installation structure of claim 38, the duct further comprising an armor layer, the armor layer being generally disposed between the inner tube and the jacket.

40. (original) The fiber optic installation structure of claim 38, the inner tube having ribs on a portion of the inner surface for aiding in routing optical fibers within the inner tube.

41. (original) The fiber optic installation structure of claim 38, the jacket being formed from a heat resistant material.

42. (original) The fiber optic installation structure of claim 38, the inner tube having ribs on a portion of the inner surface for aiding in routing optical fibers within the inner tube and an armor layer generally disposed between the inner tube and the jacket.

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43. (previously presented) The fiber optic installation structure of claim 38, the duct further comprising at least one wire wrapped about the inner tube with the at least one wire being selected from the group consisting of a conductive material, a non-conductive material, and a composite material.

44. (original) The fiber optic installation structure of claim 38, further comprising at least one electrical conductor.

45. (original) The fiber optic installation structure of claim 38, the jacket being formed from at least two layers.